MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Steady action is being taken in the matter. The opening and widening of the Kaniyantodu was taken up by the Public Works Department and an estimate for Rs. 4,000 has been sanctioned. There is a provision for Rs. 1,000 in this year's budget and another provision for Rs. 1,500 for two other works, namely, the Vallayiltodu and the Nilamantodu. Steady steps are thus being taken in the matter.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): May I know whether the Kaniyantodu is properly constructed?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): I am unable to answer that question.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): May I know whether the Kaniyantodu, as it is being constructed, will allow the drainage water to flow through it?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Those are all matters of detail which I will not be able to answer.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): May I know whether the action of the Government in widening the Kaniyantodu will improve the drainage system in the Vaikam taluk?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Yes, to some extent.

The Changanachery-Alleppey Canal.

28. **MR. T. J. MATTHEW** (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the Chief Engineer has submitted the estimate and plan called for for cutting open certain canals for linking up the natural waterways from Changanachery to Alleppey; and

(*b*) the total length of the canal that will have to be opened?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The Chief Engineer has submitted his report with plan, and the Land Revenue Commissioner has been asked to ascertain whether the people interested in the work are willing to give up the necessary lands free or at least at a cheap rate and to report the cost of acquisition.

(*b*) The total length of the canals to be cut is about 18,000 links, or 2 miles and 2 furlongs.

The Kuttapuzha Canal.

29. **MR. T. J. MATTHEW** (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*): With reference to the answer given to my question No. 235, published at pages 714 and 715 of Vol. VIII of the Council Proceedings, will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the report of the Special Navigation Officer has been received;

(*b*) whether the report considers the question of constructing the proposed Kuttapuzha canal; and

(*c*) whether the Special Navigation Officer considered the construction of the canal a feasible scheme?

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